

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02
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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO USINFO WASHDC
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
USNMR SHAPE
SECSTATE WASHDC 2723
USIA WASHDC

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SECSTATE FOR EUR/WE HUGHES, ROWELLLEUR/RPM
USIA AOR IOP/F

SUBJECT: MADRID DAILY PRESS REPORTS RADIO LIBERTY
EXPANSION

1. DECEMBER 2 MADRID PRESS REEORTS PLANNED EXPANSION
RADIO LIBERTY' EL -AIS (INDEEENDENT LIBERAL LEET)
HEADLINES "RADIO LIBERTT WISHES TO STRENGTHEN ITS
INSTALLATIONS IN SPAIN." RADIO LIBERTY "IS CONSIDERED
TO BE CONNECTED WITH THE CIA."
2. TEXT OF ARTICLE BY WASHINGTON CORRESSONDENT JUAN
GONZALEZ YUSTE FOLLOWS:
3. "RADIO LIBERTY, THE EMERICAN PROGAGANDA STATION THAT
TRANSMITS TO THE SOVIET UNION IN EIGHTEEN LANGUAGES,
INTENDS TO CONSIDERABLY INCREASE THE STRENGTH OF ITS
INSTALLATIONS IN SPAIN, ACCORDING TO AN ANNOUNCEMENT
YESTERDAY BY THE STATION'S PRESIDENT, SIG MIKELSON.

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4. "MR. MIKELSON HAD A WORKING BREAKFAST AT THE NATIONAL
PRESS CLUB OF WASHINGTON, AND DURING ITS COURSE DENIED
THAT HIS STATION CURRENTLY HAS ANY CONTACT WITH THE CIA.
RADIO LIBERTY IS REGISTERED IN THE STATE OF DELAWARE AS
A ARIIATE NON-COMMERCIAL CORPORATION, BUT RECEIVES FUNDS
FRM THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND TOGETHER WITH ITS RADIO
TWIN RADIO FREE EUROPE, HAS AN ANNUAL BUDGET OF SIXTY

MILLION DOLLARS.

5. "THE NEW EQUIPMENT WILL INCREASE THE POWER OF THE TWO STATIONS BY 2750 KILOWATTS. THE BUDGET FOR THE AMPLIFICATION OF RADIO LIBERTY REACHES FOURTEEN MILLION DOLLARS AND PART OF THIS IS DESTINED FOR THE EQUIPMENT THAT THIS RADIO HAS INSTALLED IN PALS, IN GERONA PROVINCE

6. "ACCORDING TO MIKELSON, A NEW AGREEMENT TO EXTEND THE RADIO'S USE PERMIT WILL BE NEGOTIATED BETWEEN SPAIN AND THE UNITED STATES NEXT SPRING. THE CURRENT AGREEMENT WAS EXTENDED BY TACIT AGREEMENT LAST YEAR, IN EXPECTATION OF A CLARIFICATION OF THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN SPAIN."

7. ALBERTO VALVERDE SENDS SIMILAR REPORT FROM WASHINGTON FOR DIARIO 16 (LEFT SENSATIONALIST): "THE U.S.

GOVERNMENT WILL ASK SPAIN, IN ITS PROJECTED TALKS OVER THE FUTURE OF RADIO LIBERTY, FOR AN INCREASE OF UP TO 40 PERCENT IN POWER WITH WHICH THIS ANTI-SOVIET PROPAGANDA STATION TRANSMITS FROM ITS INSTALLATIONS IN SPAIN.

8. "SIG MIKELSON, PRESIDENT OF RADIO LIBERTY AND RADIO FREE EUROPE, CONFIRMED AT A PRESS BREAKFAST IN WASHINGTON YESTERDAY THAT THE U.S. AND SPAIN WILL HAVE TO NEGOTIATE NEXT SPRING THE EXPIRED CONTRACT FOR UNCLASSIFIED

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RADIO LIBERTY TRANSMISSIONS FROM GERONA..."

9. DECEMBER 1 DIARIO 16 REPORTED ALLEGED PLANS FOR FEBRUARY MEETINGS BETWEEN U.S. AND SPAIN TO DISCUSS RENEWAL OF RADIO AGREEMENT AND ADDED THAT "THE SOVIET UNION HAS PROTESTED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS, BOTH TO MADRID AND TO WASHINGTON, AGAINST THE CONTINUATION OF THESE TRANSMISSIONS. IT IS ALSO STATED THAT THERE WERE ECONOMIC OFFERS TO THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT BY THE SOVIETS FOR A WITHDRAWAL OF PERMISSION TO THE AMERICANS..."

10. DECEMBER 2 INFORMACIONES (CENTRIST) GIVES SIMILAR COVERAGE, AND ADDS: "THE MISSION OF RADIO LIBERTY AND RADIO FREE EUROPE IS TO INTRODUCE CAPITALISTIC IDEOLOGICAL CRITERIA INTO THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, UNDER THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DIRECTION OF THE UNITED STATES..." RYLANCE

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
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